

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4511

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IAEA VIENNA 5049

E. O.11652: N/A

TAGS: IAEA TECH OCON

SUBJECT: IAEA MEETINGS RE RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

REF: A) IAEA VIENNA 4112 (NOTAL); B) IAEA VIENNA 2937

1. FURTHER TO REF B, DDG CHERNILIN RETURNED FROM MOSCOW RECENTLY WITH SOVIET REPLY TO AGENCY RE CONSULTANTS MEETING ON SOLIDIFICATION OF RESIDUES FROM THE TREATMENT OF LOW- AND INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTES AND CRITERIA FOR THEIR STORAGE AND DISPOSAL, TO BE HELD JULY 22-26 1974, AND SUBSEQUENT PANEL ON SAME SUBJECT TO BE HELD IN MOSCOW NOVEMBER 4-8, 1974.

2. SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED THAT, IN ADDITION TO LOW-AND INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL WASTES, PANEL SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE CRITERIA FOR SAFE STORAGE OF HIGH-LEVEL SOLIDIFIED WASTES. MOREOVER, SOVIETS PREFER TO HAVE JULY CONSULTANTS MEETING TO PREPARE FOR PANEL ALSO HELD IN MOSCOW, RATHER THAN IN VIENNA AS CURRENTLY PLANNED. CHERNILIN ALSO INDICATED ORALLY THAT SUGGESTED DATES FOR PANEL ARE ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIETS.

3. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS BY SECRETARIAT STAFF WITH MISSION ON
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MATTER, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW PREVIOUS NEGATIVE U.S. POSITION RE

MATTER OF INCLUDING DISCUSSIONS OF HIGH-LEVEL WASTES IN EARLIER PANEL HELD IN MOSCOW IN 1972, WE UNDERSTAND DDG CHERNILIN HAS AGREED SIGN LETTER TO SOVIETS INDICATING, INTER ALIA, (A) THAT AGENCY UNABLE AGREE TO INCLUSION OF HIGH-LEVEL WASTE IN AGENDA FOR PANEL; AND (B) THAT AGENCY PREFERENCES CONSULTANTS MEETING TO BE HELD VIENNA, AS PREVIOUSLY PLANNED.

4. FYI. IF SOVIETS CONTINUE TO INSIST ON MOSCOW AS LOCATION FOR CONSULTANTS MEETING, AGENCY MAY CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO GIVE IN AND ACCEPT. UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT AGENCY WILL STAND FIRM ON HIGH-LEVEL WASTE QUESTION.

5. POSSIBLE COMPLICATING FACTOR WHICH AEC MAY WISH TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, IN TERMS OF AEC PARTICIPATION, IS FACT THAT AGENCY IS ALSO PLANNING CONVENIENCE CONSULTANTS MEETING ON STANDARDIZATION OF WASTE CATEGORIES TO BE HELD IN VIENNA DURING WEEK IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OTHER CONSULTANTS MEETING MENTIONED ABOVE, I.E., JULY 29-AUGUST 2, 1974. (FOLLOW-UP PANEL ON THIS SUBJECT IS SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25-29.) WHILE THIS CONSULTANTS MEETING HAS NOT YET BEEN OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED, MISSION UNDERSTANDS AGENCY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALEX PERGE ATTEND, PRESUMABLY AT AGENCY EXPENSE. IF BOTH CONSULTANTS MEETINGS ARE HELD IN VIENNA, AEC MAY WISH TO REVIEW QUESTION OF AEC PARTICIPATION IN THESE MEETINGS AND CONSIDER DESIRABILITY OF HAVING SAME EXPERT ATTEND BOTH MEETINGS, IF FEASIBLE FROM STANDPOINT OF TECHNICAL INPUT AND OBJECTIVES SOUGHT BY AGENCY. ON OTHER HAND, IF JULY 22 CONSULTANT MEETING IS HELD IN MOSCOW, AEC MAY WISH CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE OF PROVIDING SEPARATE CONSULTANT FOR JULY 29 MEETING BUT HAVE LATTER ATTEND MOSCOW MEETING AS WELL, IN ORDER TO OFFSET EXPECTED HEAVY USSR PARTICIPATION. END FYI.

6. MISSION WILL ADVISE RE FURTHER SOVIET RESPONSE AS SOON AS WE ARE INFORMED. TAPE

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